



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending August 8, 2010

Issued weekly, April-November

Released August 9, 2010, 4 pm

This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Excellent Week for Field Work: A few scattered showers across the state have some of the states crops rebounding; many are still feeling the heat though. Hot and dry conditions are being experienced in most counties, which are aiding in crop harvesting yet hindering in corn growth. Irrigation is being used to help fruit and vegetable crops during these dry conditions in some parts of the state. Pennsylvania had a total of 6 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were haymaking and harvesting wheat and other small grains.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending August 8, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
16	38	43	3

Crop Progress: The average corn silked is 96%, compared to last year's 82% and the 5 year average of 88%. Corn dough averages out at 37% compared to last year's 22% and the average of 30%. The average corn height is 83 inches tall, compared to last year's 83 inches, and the 5 year average of 78 inches. Ripe oats are at 97%, ahead of the 5 year average of 84% and last year's 74%. Harvested oats are at 81%, ahead of last year's 46% and the average of 58%. Soybean blooming is at 92%, ahead of a 21% average. Soybean pod setting is at 70%, ahead of the 5 year average of 10%. Alfalfa third cutting is at 84%, well ahead of last year's 44% and the 53% average. Timothy/Clover second cutting is at 82% with 64% last year and 62% average. Peach harvest is 66%, ahead of last year's 53% and the average of 48%. Apples harvested are at 25%, above last year's 16%, and the 5 year average of 18%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn condition is 5% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, and 11% excellent. Oat condition is 4% poor, 24% fair, 55% good, and 17% excellent. Soybean conditions are 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, and 17% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are 4% poor, 26% fair, 46% good, and 24% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are 1% very poor, 10% poor, 46% fair, 37% good, and 6% excellent. The quality of hay made is 2% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 47% good, and 23% excellent. Pasture conditions are at 16% very poor, 25% poor, 30% fair, 28% good and 1% excellent. Peach conditions are 4% fair, 69% good, and 27% excellent. Apple conditions are 6% poor, 21% fair, 42% good, and 31% excellent.

Nationwide as of August 1, 2010: While cooler than normal temperatures prevailed in areas along the Pacific Coast, throughout the Southwest, and in New England, abnormally warm temperatures continued throughout the remainder of the country, promoting rapid summer crop development and small grain maturity. Precipitation in excess of 2.5 inches fell in locations scattered throughout the Nation

during the week, bringing some relief to unusually dry fields in areas of the Southeast while adding to already saturated fields in portions of the Corn Belt. Elsewhere, much of the Pacific Coast, locations in the central Great Plains, and New England received less than 5 percent of their normal precipitation. **Corn:** Nationally, 93 percent of this year's corn crop was at the silking stage or beyond by week's end, 19 percentage points ahead of last year and 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Silking throughout the Corn Belt was nearly complete ahead of both last year and normal. Thirty-one percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage by August 1, eighteen percentage points ahead of last year and 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Warm temperatures contributed to rapid phenological development in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, and Michigan, where 21 percent or more of the corn crop reached the dough stage during the week. In Iowa, the largest corn-producing State, additional rainfall during the week left many low-lying fields completely saturated, stunting growth and causing yellowing in some fields. Nationwide, 7 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dented stage, 4 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 71 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but 3 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Soybeans: Warm, mostly sunny weather promoted rapid phenological development throughout much of the major soybean-producing areas during the week. By week's end, blooming had advanced to 86 percent complete, 12 percentage points ahead of last year and 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. By August 1, pods were set on 53 percent of the Nation's soybean acreage, 20 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. While pod setting was most advanced in the Delta, nearly ideal growing conditions in Indiana had pushed progress to 14 days ahead of the 5-year average pace. Overall, 66 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from both ratings last week and the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** Producers had harvested 83 percent of this year's winter wheat crop by August 1, on par with last year's pace but 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Harvest began in Montana during the week, but fell to 42 percentage points behind normal, equivalent to 19 days behind. **Small Grains:** Oat producers had harvested 47 percent of this year's crop by week's end, 21 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest continued at a rapid pace in most estimating State, but remained behind normal the Dakotas. Overall, 76 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but 16 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending August 8, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - August 8, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	89	58	71	-1	1.04	3	15.35	1.04	50	1,906	460	3,034
Franklin	90	56	70	-1	1.14	3	15.96	-0.99	51	1,825	448	2,954
Meadville	88	55	69	1	1.19	3	17.63	1.39	63	1,740	483	2,863
Mercer	88	55	70	0	0.94	3	17.56	1.50	63	1,825	460	2,965
Springboro	88	53	68	-4	2.30	3	20.57	6.21	54	1,619	169	2,699
Warren	88	53	68	-3	1.30	2	14.98	-1.68	47	1,661	322	2,771
North Central												
Bradford Region	82	46	64	-2	2.30	2	16.72	-0.19	52	1,352	376	2,407
Oswayo	84	43	64	-3	1.49	2	17.43	1.25	54	1,351	265	2,393
Kane	85	46	64	-2	1.71	2	15.71	-1.26	49	1,331	369	2,376
Laporte	86	52	68	-4	1.10	2	12.86	-2.97	60	1,600	221	2,691
Lock Haven	90	55	72	2	0.61	2	11.59	-3.87	41	1,985	523	3,153
Port Allegany	85	51	66	1	1.37	3	15.19	-0.99	53	1,476	390	2,547
Renovo	89	54	71	-1	1.04	2	14.56	-0.90	47	1,895	433	3,061
Ridgway	85	50	67	-1	0.62	3	14.84	-2.41	52	1,483	392	2,565
Stevenson Dam	88	54	70	4	1.04	3	13.86	-3.39	46	1,780	689	2,927
Towanda	88	51	68	-3	0.88	2	10.97	-2.15	44	1,708	318	2,839
Wellsboro	82	50	65	-2	1.83	2	14.02	0.76	48	1,443	412	2,531
Williamsport	90	56	73	2	1.47	3	12.61	-2.89	45	2,204	581	3,402
Northeast												
Hawley	85	46	67	-3	0.61	2	13.41	-1.32	45	1,564	390	2,658
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	88	53	72	-1	1.00	3	9.22	-5.28	41	2,027	485	3,177
Susquehanna	86	50	68	1	0.26	2	14.15	-1.63	54	1,668	539	2,788
West Central												
Butler	89	55	71	0	0.67	3	19.95	4.06	54	1,785	354	2,924
New Castle	92	57	73	3	0.48	2	17.54	2.86	49	1,986	546	3,140
Slippery Rock	90	55	71	3	0.96	3	17.26	1.72	55	1,850	554	3,001
Central												
Altoona/Blair	87	55	71	0	1.68	4	16.11	1.69	50	1,968	422	3,128
DuBois	85	52	69	-1	0.62	3	14.01	-1.96	53	1,750	415	2,891
Lewistown	90	57	73	-1	0.33	2	12.46	-3.10	42	2,084	390	3,275
Middletown	92	61	77	2	0.40	1	16.76	1.71	37	2,410	496	3,621
Prince Gallitzi	86	51	68	-1	0.43	2	16.82	-1.58	48	1,589	366	2,717
Selinsgrove	90	57	72	0	1.18	4	10.39	-5.10	36	2,037	454	3,216
State College	87	56	72	1	0.53	2	11.97	-2.34	43	2,014	486	3,182
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	88	56	73	-2	0.48	3	18.38	2.64	39	2,157	405	3,337
Lehighton	88	57	71	-3	0.67	4	15.59	-0.21	42	1,940	255	3,113
Matamoras	86	50	68	-4	0.21	2	12.40	-4.09	42	1,750	226	2,887
Mt_Pocono	84	49	69	2	0.67	2	11.80	-5.41	48	1,682	655	2,794
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	89	61	74	3	0.11	2	14.88	-0.39	49	2,221	668	3,394
Indiana_PA	87	55	70	-1	0.94	4	17.39	-0.36	61	1,788	294	2,937
Myersdale	84	51	66	-5	0.61	4	14.06	-3.33	53	1,418	6	2,514
Mount Pleasant	87	56	71	3	0.73	4	16.58	-0.95	45	1,909	626	3,055
Pittsburgh Intl	90	57	74	2	0.09	3	14.94	0.63	47	2,161	535	3,330
Connellsville	90	56	73	1	0.76	3	17.17	0.22	55	2,089	431	3,258
Waynesburg	89	55	72	2	0.65	1	14.86	-0.74	41	1,958	459	3,108
South Central												
Biglerville	95	59	75	0	0.43	1	10.15	-3.66	31	2,243	364	3,434
Everett	89	55	71	-2	0.50	3	13.74	-0.21	46	1,828	311	2,983
Hanover	95	56	76	1	0.54	1	10.29	-3.52	38	2,232	353	3,420
Harrisburg_AP	91	59	76	0	0.94	1	16.60	1.55	39	2,348	427	3,552
South Mountain	88	54	71	-2	0.44	1	9.96	-4.46	38	1,796	257	2,942
York	92	55	74	-1	0.76	1	13.44	-1.88	40	2,161	289	3,344
Southeast												
Green Lane	91	59	75	2	0.35	2	12.24	-3.20	39	2,241	573	3,441
Hamburg	88	58	74	3	0.51	4	16.78	-1.57	44	2,208	692	3,402
West_Chester	93	56	74	-1	1.33	1	16.66	-0.56	33	2,193	334	3,383
Lancaster	90	59	75	1	0.65	2	13.19	-2.82	39	2,270	514	3,461
Neshaminy Falls	91	58	75	1	0.08	1	10.94	-7.09	39	2,300	556	3,507
New Holland	91	60	75	0	1.00	3	14.41	-1.60	41	2,277	521	3,467
Philadelphia	95	68	80	3	0.05	1	13.51	-2.01	36	2,744	727	3,971
Philadelphia NE	93	63	78	1	0.51	1	11.34	-4.18	47	2,549	532	3,767
Reading	92	59	77	3	0.37	2	13.16	-3.78	40	2,425	704	3,634
Sellersville	89	58	74	1	0.39	1	13.62	-1.82	39	2,077	409	3,251
Willow Grove	91	62	76	3	0.29	1	12.67	-5.36	33	2,399	655	3,608

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).
 Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.
 Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.
 Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.
 Copyright 2004: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney -- Adams County had another hot and dry week. Temperatures were mostly in the 80's and into the 90's some days. Wednesday evening Bendersville area got dumped on with heavy rainfall, where majority of the county received no rainfall. Corn continues to suffer from drought conditions. Some corn will be chopped this week for silage. Crop insurance adjusters are appraising corn to be harvested as silage to try to get some use of it, even though some stalks have no ears and not much height. Soybeans are still looking ok, however some double-cropped are needing moisture to get them growing. Hay baling has pretty much come to a halt due to no regrowth from being so dry. Fruit crops continue to be harvested in the county with some areas reporting good crops for apples and peaches with plenty of flavor. This week they are calling for more hot and humid conditions into the 90's which will put an end to some of the corn and will have producers busy harvesting silage. Adams County really needs some rainfall to keep some of the other crops going and hay crops regrowing.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker -- Good week for summer field work, but rainfall is needed badly to help top soil moisture. I had 0.6 inches of rainfall for the week.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner -- Crops appear to be above normal in yields. Oats are coming off around 65 bushels per acre with test weight of 32 pounds/bushel. The 2.5 inches of rain on August 1 was great.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) -- Off and on rain showers the beginning of the week made hay making difficult, but by Thursday night the weather changed to a weekend of sun bringing the haymaking equipment back out into the field. Corn and soybeans are overall looking good for this time of year. Oat harvest was wrapping up and straw was being made this weekend. Pasture conditions are still holding with the best pastures on farms using rotational grazing.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Paul H. Craig -- Silage harvest began on fields with poorest grain set. Very short crop and low tonnage. Beans look good. Spider mites still causing many problems. Leaf defoliators also appearing - grasshoppers and green cloverworms. Soils are again getting dry - need more rain to finish the crops.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr -- Repeat again this week - hot and dry. It does not appear that there will be any immediate relief for the drought this year and the corn yields will suffer significantly. Yields that should be in the 150 bushel range are now expected to be less than 70 bushel per acre. Not expecting any hay for the fourth cutting of alfalfa. Just too hot for any signs of growth.

INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF -- Well there was finally enough good dry weather this week to finish combining the oats. It should have been done 3 weeks ago. The hot weather has been making the corn and soybeans grow. Looks like no rain until Wednesday of this week so we cut some second cutting of alfalfa on Saturday. Hope everyone this week has a safe farming week.

MERCER COUNTY, JAMES P. RUST -- Insect pressure on the sweet corn has eased up to some extent for corn earworms. We received only .2 inches of rainfall this week, so crops are showing signs of stress again. Many of the third cutting alfalfa fields were cut on Saturday. Long range weather is looking good for hay making.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer -- The heat and dry weather conditions have returned. The corn has begun to shrivel up and dry as a result of the heat. Most of the third cutting of alfalfa has been made into dry hay and haylage. There are weed and beetle problems in some areas of the soybean fields. Preparations are beginning for the seeding of alfalfa and winter grains. The quality of the pastures have deteriorated and very little feed value is being provided.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney -- The growing conditions across the county vary. East of I-81 the soil moisture levels are favorable for growing crops, but west of I-81 the crops are drying to a crisp.

TIOGA COUNTY, Sherri Butters, FSA -- Light rains are scattered throughout the county as this report is being done. Crops look very good as a whole. We do need rain but, the lack of it is allowing for third cutting alfalfa to be made and combining of oats. Managed pastures are doing well where rain was received.

YORK COUNTY, John Rowehl -- Crops are badly in need of some relief from heat and dryness.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending August 8, 2010

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	5	1	5
Corn, silk	96	82	88
Corn, dough	37	22	30
Corn average height, inches	83	83	78
Oats, ripe	97	74	84
Oats, harvested	81	46	58
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	84	44	53
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	11	2	2
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	82	64	62
Peaches, harvested	66	53	48
Apples, harvested	25	16	18

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending August 8, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	5	12	32	40	11
Oats	0	4	24	55	17
Soybeans	1	3	25	54	17
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	4	26	46	24
Timothy clover stand	1	10	46	37	6
Quality of hay made	2	5	23	47	23
Pasture	16	25	30	28	1
Peaches	0	0	4	69	27
Apples	0	6	21	42	31

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States
 Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Pennsylvania Field Office
 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
 Harrisburg PA 17112

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
 POSTAGE & FEES PAID
 USDA
 PERMIT NO. G-38